GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:173
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2005
SHROTAGE OF PILOTS
Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Pingle Shri Devidas Anandrao

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any shortage of pilots in the civil aviation sector;

(b) if so, the details of the shortage of pilots in public sector airlines;

(c) whether the shortage of pilots has adversely affected the flight schedule;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has taken any steps for recruitment of pilots in these airlines;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the time schedule fixed for recruiting the pilots?

Answer

- MINISTER OF STATE(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g):- A statement is laid on the Table of the House.
Statement in reply to Lok Sabha Starred () Question No.173 for 04.08.2005 regarding Shortage of Pilots.

(a):- Yes, Sir.

(b):- At present, Air India (including Air India Express) has a shortage of 118 pilots, whereas Alliance Air, a subsidiary of Indian Airlines Limited has a shortage of 40 pilots. Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited, a Public Sector Undertaking, under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, has a shortage of 16 Captains.

(c) and (d):- Adjustments have been made to the flight schedules in order to maintain regularity of services within the existing resources.

(e), (f) and (g):- Airlines are in the process of recruiting pilots to fill up the vacancies arising from time to time, through open advertisement in leading newspapers, campus recruitment from Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi at frequent intervals and foreign recruitment agencies. To overcome the shortage of pilots, retirement age of pilots, who can operate commercial flights, has been increased from 60 years to 61 years.